



# USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

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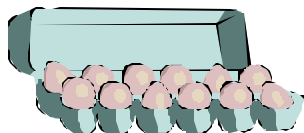
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## NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE

Prices were unchanged to sharply lower where values were based on weekly averages. Elsewhere, prices were unchanged. The market tone was unsettled and ranged from about steady to steady. Retail demand was often disappointing but was anticipated to improve by the weekend. Supplies ranged from at least adequate to instances burdensome. Breaking stock supplies were intentionally lower but about adequate in the Eastern region from regular sources. Light type fowl were fully adequate for immediate slaughter requirements.

**NORTH ATLANTIC SHELL** In Philadelphia, prices were unchanged to 14 cents lower on all sizes; in Boston, prices were unchanged to 10 cents lower on extra large, unchanged to 12 cents lower on large, and unchanged to 7 cents lower on mediums, when based on previous week average prices. Prices paid to producers in New England were unchanged. The market tone was generally steady and testing at current market values. Demand was light to mostly fair. Supplies were fully adequate to available on all sizes. Breaking stock inventories in the Eastern region were intentionally lower due to breakers waiting on price adjustments. Light type fowl were fully sufficient for slaughter schedules.

**NEW YORK** Prices were unchanged. The market tone was about steady and testing at current levels. Demand was light to fair, mostly fair. Supplies were fully adequate to available.

**CHICAGO** Prices were unchanged for all sizes. The trade sentiment steady. Demand into all outlets mixed and ranged from light to moderate, best where features are planned or in progress. Offerings adequate to instances burdensome.

**MIDWEST** Prices in Detroit and Major Ohio and Wisconsin cities were sharply lower for all sizes. Prices to producers in Iowa-Minnesota-Wisconsin were unchanged. The trade sentiment was about steady. Retail movement was mostly fair. Food service movement was slow to moderate. Supplies were fully adequate to available for all sizes. Central States nest run breaking stock prices were unchanged. Offerings were adequate to available for the light to occasionally moderate demand. Most breakers were satisfied with existing inventories and regular commitments. Floor stocks were at least adequate. Trade sentiment was cautiously steady to

**SOUTHERN** In Atlanta and Florida, prices were sharply lower. The undertonewas unsettled to steady. Demand was light to moderate with some buyers cautious. Supplies were at least adequate for fulltrade needs. The average price on Grade A or better white cartoned large eggs delivered to volume buyers in the Southernregion for the week ending February 25, 2000 was 64.19 cents, 16.58 cents less than the week before and 1.47 cents less than the same week last year. Breaking stock inventories were intentionally held down as breakers awaited price adjustments. Light type fowl offerings were fully adequate for buyer needs.

**WESTERN** Prices 12 cents lower on all sizes throughout the region. The Pacific region inventory was 4% higher than last week with California up 3% and Oregon-Washington-Utah up 7%. Retailer demand improved. Offerings easily adequate.

**PRICES TO RETAILERS**, SALES TO VOLUME BUYERS, GRADE A AND US GRADE A WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, DELIVERED STORE DOOR OR WAREHOUSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	EXTRA LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM
<b>NORTHEAST CITIES</b>			
Boston (Brown)	89-91	82-84	59-61
New York	56-58	53-56	44-47
Philadelphia	54-60	52-58	43-48
<b>SOUTHERN CITIES</b>			
Atlanta (1) (2)	47-48	45.5-47	37-38
Jackson (1)	57-58	54-55	46-47
Major Louisiana Cities (1)	54-67	51-65	41-55
<b>MIDWEST CITIES</b>			
Chicago	46-51	45-50	35-40
Detroit (2)	43-46	42-45	31-34
Major Ohio Cities (2)	44-51.5	43-50	32-39
Major Wisconsin Cities	47-54	45-52	35-42
<b>WESTERN CITIES</b>			
Houston (1)	62-67	59-61	49-51
California(Grade AA)(1)(3)	84	77	67

- (1) - Prices reported weekly  
(2) - Delivered Warehouse  
(3) - Reported Invoice prices

**CALIFORNIA** Prices 12 cents lower on all sizes. The California inventory was 3% higher than last week. Retailer demand improved. Offerings easily adequate. Small invoice price 47. Ads in Northern California: major- large dozen 87, 18 pack 119; smaller outlets - large dozen 88-99. PRICES INVOICE, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE
JUMBO	97
EXTRA LARGE	84
LARGE	77
MEDIUM	67
PRICES TO CONSUMERS MAJOR CHAINS, METROPOLITAN AREA, USDA GRADE AA AND GRADE AA, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, CENTS PER DOZEN.	
<b>SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA</b>	
	<b>NORTHERN CALIFORNIA</b>
	RANGE
JUMBO	229-289
EXTRA LARGE	219-279
LARGE	199-209
MEDIUM	187-199
JUMBO	229-269
EXTRA LARGE	199-239
LARGE	189-219
MEDIUM	149-179

**NATIONAL RETAIL EGG PURCHASES REPORT** Cooperators estimate orders for the week ending March 03, 2000 will increase by 2 percent. Present week purchases for the week ending February 25, 2000 were 234,622 cases which was 1 percent below the prior week and 2 percent below estimates.

	CARTONED	LOOSE	TOTAL
Cases purchased present week.....	199,551	35,071	234,622
% change from the prior week.....	-1	-2	-1

Comparison figures are compiled on a matched plant basis. Purchases and estimates by 17 cooperators; 30 dozen cases or equivalent.

**CENTRAL STATES BREAKING STOCK** Prices were unchanged. Offerings were adequate or available for the mostly light to instances moderate demand. Most breakers working from existing inventories and regular commitments. Supplies were at least adequate. Trade sentiment cautiously steady to steady. PRICES PAID TO 11:00 A.M., MATERIAL EXCHANGED, 30 DOZEN CASE EQUIVALENT, 48 LB. MINIMUM NET WEIGHT, DELIVERED TO BREAKERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
NEST RUN	25-28	25-27
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	10-13	

CENTRAL STATES AREA:  
AR,CO,IA,IL,IN,KS,LA,MI,MN,MO,NM,ND,NE,OH,OK,SD,TX,WI

**SOUTH CENTRAL HEAVY LIVE HEN REPORT** Trading levels were generally unchanged from the past week. Demand was moderate for at least adequate offerings of spent hens. Finished sales were fair. Schedules were normal. Trade sentiment was at least steady.  
HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) \*  
FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 28-FEB-00

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	8.75-14.25	11-14	12.07

\* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

**SOUTHEAST HEAVY LIVE HEN REPORT** Majority prices were unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was light to good. Offerings increased but were still generally adequate for trade needs. The undertone was steady with a slight amount of caution noted.  
HEAVY TYPE HENS (7 POUNDS AND UP) \*  
FINAL PRICE, CENTS PER LB., GENERALLY FOR SLAUGHTER THE WEEK OF 28-FEB-00

	RANGE	MAJORITY	WTD AVG
AT FARM BUYER LOADING	7-16	8.25-11.75	10.61
AT FARM PRODUCER LOADING	TOO FEW TO REPORT		
FOB PLANT	TOO FEW TO REPORT		

\* WEIGHTS UNDER 7 LBS. SUBJECT TO DISCOUNT.

**WEEKLY SHELL EGG INVENTORY REPORT** - AM Feb 28, 2000

STOCKS ON HAND AVAILABLE FOR MARKETING 1/

(30 DOZEN CASES-IN THOUSANDS)

		NO	SO	SO	5-Area		
	Northeast	CENT	CENT	Atl	Pacific		
Jumbo	Curr Wk	10.2	12.9	6.2	13.6	10.3	53.2
	Change	-0.3	-0.1	0.8	1.0	-1.4	0%
Ex Lge	Curr Wk	24.7	34.9	10.7	27.1	22.8	120.2
	Change	1.2	4.6	1.6	4.1	2.7	13%
Large	Curr Wk	49.9	90.0	58.4	75.0	82.1	355.4
	Change	6.8	8.3	1.8	1.2	4.9	7%
Medium	Curr Wk	18.7	29.9	14.5	25.2	19.4	107.7
	Change	2.3	-2.8	-0.8	-0.1	-1.9	-3%
Small	Curr Wk	5.0	7.3	2.7	7.7	5.6	28.3
	Change	-0.7	-1.8	0.1	0.7	1.0	-2%
Misc	Curr Wk	4.5	18.1	8.0	11.9	7.0	49.5
	Change	-0.2	3.7	1.7	2.3	0.9	20%
Ungraded	Curr Wk	30.0	54.8	12.1	31.0	48.1	176.0
	Change	5.7	0.2	5.0	3.8	2.0	10%
Total	Curr Wk	143.0	247.9	112.6	191.5	195.3	890.3
Percent	Change	12%	5%	10%	7%	4%	7%

TOTAL	Number of Cases	Percent Change	Number of Cooperators
Shell Egg	890.3	7%	167
Shell Egg Breaking Stock	418.2	1%	40
Total Shell Egg	1308.5	5%	207

1/Information is supplied by a universe of 167 cooperators who normally have stocks on hand each Monday A.M. and is on the basis of matched plants reporting in both the current and previous weeks. Sample does not represent total U.S. inventory but includes eggs packed for export when in cooperator's coolers.

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No valid comparison can be made with year ago or previous months' figures due to changes in number of plants surveyed, holidays falling in different weeks or changes in size of plant operations.

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CANADIAN EGGS NOT AVAILABLE

**TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES** — DAILY WTD AVERAGE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR FEBRUARY 25, 2000

CURRENT LOADS								FUTURE LOADS				TOTAL LOADS			
20.50								5.00				25.50			
SE		NE		MW		LOADS		SC		NW		SW		LOADS	
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST		CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	
GNR W 1	30.00	—	—	32.00	32.00	—	2.00	GNR W 1	33.00	34.25	—	—	—	—	4.00
GNR W 2	—	—	29.50	31.00	29.50	31.00	2.00	GL W XL	—	—	—	—	—	48.30	3.75
GL W XL	—	—	—	38.00	37.32	—	5.75	GL W LG	—	—	—	—	—	44.07	1.75
GL W LG	—	—	—	—	33.86	—	4.75	GL W MD	25.00	—	—	—	—	31.00	2.00
GL W MD	—	—	24.00	25.75	—	—	3.00	NRBS - 48	—	28.00	—	—	—	—	2.00
GL W SM	—	—	20.50	22.00	—	—	1.00								
NRBS - 48	24.50	—	—	—	—	—	2.00								

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES ARE LISTED FOR VARIOUS CLASSES PRICED BY ORIGIN AND/OR DESTINATION FOR 6 REGIONS. THE LOADS COLUMN REFLECTS TOTAL LOADS REPORTED AND INCLUDES LOADS WITH PRICES TO BE DETERMINED LATER. NRBS CATEGORIES REPRESENT NET WEIGHT - MATERIAL MAY OR MAY NOT BE INCLUDED.

**TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES** — WEEKLY (5-DAY) WTD AVE PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR 02/19/00-02/25/00

CURRENT LOADS								115.25	FUTURE LOADS								39.25	TOTAL LOADS								154.50					
SE				NE				MW				LOADS				SC				NW				SW				LOADS			
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST				
GNR W 1	34.25	31.50	37.50	37.50	32.00	—	12.00		GNR W 1	37.67	38.43	—	—	—	—	—	—	10.00													
GNR W 2	—	—	29.50	30.00	29.50	31.00	7.00		GNR W 2	—	28.00	—	—	—	—	—	—	3.00													
GNR W 3	—	—	—	—	—	—	3.00		GNR W 3	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	3.00													
GNR W 4	—	—	17.00	19.00	—	—	1.00		GNR BR 1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1.00													
GNR BR 1	62.00	63.00	57.75	60.50	—	—	7.50		GL W XL	37.35	38.00	—	—	33.50	45.90	12.50															
GL W XL	38.00	38.00	46.00	41.30	37.17	—	21.50		GL W LG	33.02	—	—	—	—	42.25	17.75															
GL W LG	—	36.00	32.50	39.67	33.36	—	25.50		GL W MD	24.50	—	—	—	29.50	32.05	11.00															
GL W MD	—	27.86	25.55	27.37	28.50	—	11.75		NRBS - 48	—	28.00	—	—	—	—	2.00															
GL W SM	19.50	21.25	19.55	21.35	—	—	6.00		NRBS - 39	17.00	19.00	—	—	—	—	1.00															
GL BR XL	—	—	—	—	—	—	.25																								
GL BR LG	—	—	61.00	63.00	—	—	2.00																								
GL BR MD	—	—	22.00	24.00	—	—	1.00																								
NRBS - 48	24.50	—	27.00	28.60	25.68	28.00	23.50																								
NRBS - 45	—	—	—	—	23.50	25.00	2.00																								
NRBS - 39	—	—	—	—	19.50	20.50	5.00																								

WEIGHTED AVERAGE PRICES ARE LISTED FOR VARIOUS CLASSES PRICED BY ORIGIN AND/OR DESTINATION FOR 6 REGIONS. THE LOADS COLUMN REFLECTS TOTAL LOADS REPORTED AND INCLUDES LOADS WITH PRICES TO BE DETERMINED LATER. NRBS CATEGORIES REPRESENT NET WEIGHT - MATERIAL MAY OR MAY NOT BE INCLUDED.

**NUMBER OF CASES OF EGGS SHIPPED TO CALIFORNIA 02/13/00 - 02/19/00**

Origin State	AR	CO	IA	MI	MN	MO	OH	OR	SD	TX	UT	VA	WI	TOTAL
N. CA	0	0	2,413	0	840	0	0	572	0	0	0	0	720	4,545
C. CA	650	1,420	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	450	0	2,520
S. CA	1,670	0	16,472	950	4,020	1,013	1,800	0	1,500	900	3,539	0	858	32,722
TTL STATE	2,320	1,420	18,885	950	4,860	1,013	1,800	572	1,500	900	3,539	450	1,578	39,787

SHIPPED TO MILITARY: 0

**NEW ENGLAND**

PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS, CASES EXCHANGED, GRADE YIELD BASIS, BROWN EGGS LOOSE, AT FARM, CENTS PER DOZEN.

JUMBO	EX-LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
107-110	70-73	63-66	40-43	16-19

**DETROIT EGGS**

PRICES TO FIRST RECEIVERS, CASES INCLUDED, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, 30 DOZEN CASES, WHITE EGGS LOOSE, CENTS PER DOZEN.

JUMBO	EX-LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
51-54	42-48	40-45	29-34	23-27

**IOWA-MINNESOTA-WISCONSIN**

PRICES PAID TO PRODUCERS, CENTS PER DOZEN.

LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
26-28	17-19	13-15

**NORTH CAROLINA EGGS**

PRICES WEIGHTED AVERAGE, IN SMALL LOTS, USDA GRADE A AND GRADE A, WHITE EGGS IN CARTONS, NEARBY RETAIL OUTLET, CENTS PER DOZEN.

LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
60.32	55.31	41.35

**COLD STORAGE MOVEMENT-FROZEN EGGS** (In Thousands)

ON HAND	2/21/00	2/14/00	2/22/99
PACIFIC COAST	125	134	74
LOS ANGELES	0	0	6

**HONOLULU, OAHU-WHITE SHELL EGGS** PRICES DELIVERED TO RETAILERS, GRADE A STORE DOOR FEBRUARY 22,2000:

	CARTONS	WTG AVG
EX-LARGE	149-155	153.45
LARGE	143-150	148.24
MEDIUM	124-135	132.41
SMALL	105-109	106.29

Receipts from the mainland: 2/13/00-2/19/00  
30-dozen cases 2,982

Receipts from the mainland: 2/6/00-2/12/00  
30-dozen cases 4,157

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